

**Date:** September 28, 2025

**Series:** Philippians: Triumphant, Tenacious, Battle-Tested Joy

**Title:** Standing, Striving, Suffering Side-by-Side

**Text:** Philippians 1:27-30



## INTRODUCTION

***“For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” (Philippians 1:21)***

### I. WALKING WORTHY OF THE GOSPEL BY STANDING, STRIVING, SUFFERING

#### A. Walk Worthy! (Philippians 1:27a)

1) This huge, all-encompassing command to “walk worthy of the Gospel” immediately highlights OUR NEED for God’s grace, God’s presence, and God’s wisdom in our lives!

2) “Walking worthy of the Gospel” has NOTHING to do with earning God’s love or with achieving salvation; rather, it has EVERYTHING to do with living a life of gratitude, joy, and thanksgiving to Christ for the life and salvation He has ALREADY given us!

(1 John 4:19; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 1:4b-6)

3) “Walking worthy of the Gospel” is a big, beautiful, all-encompassing DAILY GOAL!

*“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”*  
(Romans 12:1)

### Philippians 1:27b -

**B. STAND: We can stand firm upon truth in unity with our fellow brothers & sisters.**

(John 14:6; John 17:17; John 8:31b-32; Jude 3b; Romans 12:2)

Note: We DON'T do this alone!

### Philippians 1:27b-28 -

**C. STRIVE: We can courageously strive side-by-side to advance GOD'S work!**

(1 Peter 5:7; Matthew 28:20; Romans 8:28-39)

Note: We DON'T do this alone!

### Philippians 1:29-30 -

**D. SUFFER: We can confidently suffer and endure hardship for the cause of Christ!**

- 1) Our suffering is NOT an accident! It has been "granted" (given) to us by God! (Phil. 1:29)
- 2) You can trust God to use suffering to mature, to grow, and to refine you! (Gen. 50:20)
- 3) When we suffer for Christ, Jesus is glorified and others are helped through our witness and testimony! (Acts 7; Phil. 1:12-14; 4:22)
- 4) Any suffering we experience here on earth will truly seem like nothing compared to the vast, eternal, infinite joy and glory that is to come! (2 Cor. 4:17)
- 5) Jesus draws near to and strengthens those who suffer for Him! (2 Tim. 4:16-18)

### Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. Why does Paul begin verse 27 with the word "only"? What does that mean?
2. How have you personally seen and witnessed other believers living a life worthy of the gospel?
3. What kinds of things do you see in your life that are not "worthy of the gospel"? How can you replace those things with actions and attitudes that honor Christ?
4. In what ways do you see your fellow Christians standing, striving, and suffering well? In what ways can we improve in these areas?
5. What kinds of truths, verses, and realities are helpful to meditate on in the midst of suffering?